

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe



*Brings You News
From Sacramento*

May 9, 2003



Assemblymember Christine Kehoe, Speaker Pro Tem

Pursuing fairness in gas pricing

I introduced legislation to promote greater competition in the oil industry and bring down gas prices. This week, unfortunately, my Assembly Bill 146 failed to get enough votes to pass the Assembly's Business and Professions Committee.

In the past few days I received numerous calls and emails from constituents wanting to know if I'd given up the fight against high gas prices. You'll be pleased to hear that I'm still pursuing this legislation. I have formed a Select Committee on Gas Pricing that will hold hearings in San Diego and northern California to find out exactly how we can bring them down and I will re-craft my legislation and bring it back to the legislature.

To let me know how you feel about this issue, please email _____ me at Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov

DNA legislation approved unanimously by Assembly

Giving prosecutors adequate time to examine DNA evidence is a crucial step in some criminal court cases. This became very clear during the murder trial of Danielle van Dam when the San Diego district attorney was compelled to rush to trial before full examination of the DNA evidence. This placed the case itself at risk and created unnecessary costs for both the district attorney and law enforcement.

Examination and testing of DNA evidence is essential to our justice system in the 21st Century – that's why I was asked to author this bill by the California District Attorney's Association.

My bill AB 155, will allow prosecutors and defendants additional time when necessary to examine DNA evidence before going to trial. It was recently approved unanimously by the State Assembly. This bill will be heard next in the Senate Committee on Public Safety.

To read the text of this bill, you can go to www.leginfo.gov and search for AB 155.

College Avenue Senior Center celebrates 5 years

For five years the JFS/College Avenue Senior Center has been serving older adults in our community. In recognition of their anniversary, I had the honor of presenting the Senior Center with an Assembly Resolution at their celebration last week.



Jill Borg-Spitzer, Brenda Bothel, Kehoe

For all they do for our community, everyone involved in the Senior Center deserves great recognition.

For more information on the College Avenue Senior Center, go to <http://www.jfssd.org/SeniorsCenterCollege.html>.

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The Changing Face of Downtown

Last week I spent the afternoon speaking to the Downtown Partnership about issues that are important to our city. The Partnership works closely with businesses and government to identify needs, develop plans, and implement programs that support the business climate and quality of life in downtown San Diego.

Over the past two decades, more and more businesses, restaurants, galleries, and now especially homes, are booming in the area. Our theaters, Symphony, as well as other arts & cultural venues not only make downtown a local "date night" favorite, it makes this city an ideal travel destination and brings tourism dollars to our local businesses. With the Trolley, bus system, access to freeways, proximity of the airport, and the new "Wave" ferry, you can get to our downtown area easily by road, rail, sea or air. This is the type of smart growth I like to see – urban growth that includes mass transit, housing, and a thriving commercial district.

*Kehoe
with
Downtown
Partnership
President
Barbara
Warden*



To learn more about the Downtown Partnership, go to <http://www.dtsd.org/home.asp>. To get involved in downtown activities, go to <http://www.gaslamp.org/>.

Serra Mesa Resident Volunteer of Month

Barbara McLachlan, a Serra Mesa resident, is an active community member involved in the Serra Mesa Community Council, Serra Mesa Friends of the Library, and the Serra Mesa Planning Group.



Assemblymember Kehoe and Barbara McLachlan

Barbara cares about her neighborhood, and is willing to spend her free time helping her neighbors and working on important community projects. The volunteer work she devotes herself to is valuable and vital to the progress of Serra Mesa.

In addition to being a treasurer of the Serra Mesa Community Council, Barbara has volunteered for the Juarez Elementary School PTA and has served as an Executive Secretary for the Greater San Diego Mathematics Council. This long-time Serra Mesa resident has been a professor of Mathematics at Mesa College since 1984, and all three of her sons attended Serra Mesa schools.

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